



State Interagency Coordinating Council for Tennessee's Early Intervention System

January 22, 2013
9:00 am – 12:00 pm (CT)

Meeting Minutes

ICC Members in Attendance:

Bobbi Lussier-Department of Education
Ned Solomon-TN Council on Developmental Disabilities
Robyn Ridgley-Middle Tennessee State University
Gladys Harris-Family Partners
Jacqueline Johnson-Tennessee Department of Health
Louise Barnes-Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Kiersten Kinder-Vanderbilt University, Susan Gray School
Janet Coscarelli-Head Start

ICC Guests in Attendance:

Tonya Bowman-Family Voices of Tennessee
Linda Hartbarger-Department of Education
Susie McCamy-UT Center on Deafness
Belinda Hotchkiss-Family Voices of Tennessee
Carmen V. Santiago-Family Voices of Tennessee
Deborah Usry-TNAAP
Heather Higgins-First Steps
Catherine Goodwin-Department of Education
Julie Beeler-UT Center on Deafness
Danielle Keeton-LeBonheur Children's Hospital, LEAD
Jacque Cundall-TN Department of Health
Sarah Hunt-Child Development Centers
Donna McConnico-Signal Centers

MEETING:

Opening/Welcome

SICC Chair Gladys Harris opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. The SICC members, lead agency staff, and guests introduced themselves and identified their respective agencies and roles.

Approval of Agenda

Gladys Harris reviewed the agenda and asked for any additions.



Approval of Minutes of October Meeting

Minutes from the October SICC meeting were reviewed and a request for corrections was made by Janet Coscarelli who attended the October meeting but was not noted present. Minutes were approved.

Agency and Program Reporting

Annual Performance Report (APR) Update-Catherine Goodwin/Gladys Harris

Gladys Harris, ICC chair, reviewed the state's draft FFY 2011-12 Part C Annual Performance Report (APR) with ICC membership and guests. The APR is due to the federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on February 15, 2013 this year as there was a delay in states access to federal submission instructions. A preliminary summary of results was provided to ICC members. Catherine Goodwin, Part C Monitoring Coordinator, provided Indicator specific details as support to the review. There was much discussion on Indicator 3, Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO). An ECO Center handout was provided to assist in understanding the ECO measurement. To further connect this Indicator to the Department of Education's priorities/initiatives, Catherine added to the ECO handout identification tags for Summary Statement 1 which correlates to "closing the achievement gap" and Summary Statement 2, which correlates to "school readiness." A handout (graph) was also provided to show state progress from FFY 2005-06 to 2011-12 for federal compliance indicators 1 (timely service delivery), 7 (timely eligibility determination and initial IFSP development), and 8C (timely LEA transition conferences). The focus of state improvement activities this year are on public awareness/child find and on early childhood outcomes.

A question for clarification was asked about Indicator 2. This indicator addresses the primary setting in which a child receives IFSP services. There are three federal setting types: home, community, and other. Tennessee combines home and community together relative to the state target as these are both considered natural environment settings. A community setting maybe defined as a childcare center, Early Head Start program, an Early Intervention Resource Agency (EIRA) inclusive center-based program, etc. Data are reported by setting type, rather than by program.

The APR along with the Revised State Performance Plan (SPP) will be posted on the state's website in March after a period of clarification OSEP affords states to finalize the APR. The *Annual Report to the Public* will also be posted in March. This report compares Tennessee's Early Intervention Service Programs (EIS Programs) with Indicator performance measures along with a comparison to state targets. The nine EIS Programs in TN are the TEIS-Point of Entry Offices.

ECIP Staff Update-Linda Hartbarger

Linda shared that two positions, Part C Coordinator and Provider Services Manager, have been filled by Joan Kennedy and Gary Smith, respectively. The District Administrator position once held by Joan will need to be filled; a register for qualified candidates will be pulled later this week.

The densification continues in Andrew Johnson Tower with the move for Early Childhood to be relocated to the tenth floor slated for May 5.

Part C Application Update-Linda Hartbarger

The Part C application is due April 22. Posted on the TEIS website February 1 for 60 days, it is then open to public comment for 30 of those 60 days.



State of Tennessee Rules and Regulations Update-Linda Hartbarger

The final version of State Regs is due to OSEP by June 30 for approval.

EIRA Conference-Margaret Headrick

Margaret stated that the EIRA Conference "Building Best Practices" would be held on March 26 and 27 in Murfreesboro at Embassy Suites Conference Center. Scholarships for 25 EIRA's to attend will be given by application which will cover hotel and travel costs. The conference will offer featured speakers Dathan Rush and M'Lisa Shelden, Bonnie Keilty and Sam Parker. Resource materials for attendees will be available from each speaker; networking opportunities with other EIRA's and community programs supporting birth to three are included.

ECO Training-Jill Rigsby

Jill shared there would be an emphasis on beefing up training for TEIS staff before it was offered to others within the state.

TEIS Training Update-Jill Rigsby

Jill said there would be training for TEIS staff relating to Connecting the Dots; Steps to Success training would be offered in Jackson, Knoxville and Smyrna.

In regard to public awareness, some good ideas have been offered from EIRA's in hopes that TEIS could use those as a springboard to build on in their own public awareness efforts, pending approval from Linda and Joan. There are a large number of children in the Memphis area not currently being reached in relation to public awareness. Sherree Sinclair, OEC Accountant, shared that Fiscal 13 spending would go into Fiscal 14 spending.

ICC Business

ICC Representative Update:

Robyn Ridgley and Jacqueline Johnson were nominated for Chair and Co-Chair, respectively. Gladys said that nominations for a parent representative for the ICC are still needed. Appointed candidates can participate either by phone or in person as reimbursement for mileage is included. A Legislative representative is still needed; nominations can be addressed to either Gladys Harris or Jill Rigsby.

Member Agency/Program Updates

Louise Barnes with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse said they were at their temporary location on Mainstream Drive until they are relocated to a permanent address.

Janet Coscarelli with Head Start was anticipating a six to nine percent cut but were focused on an actual 7.8 percent as a result of no more funding coming for children age zero to three. Pick-up and transportation of children as well as a shortened week and employee benefit reductions were being considered as a way to save money without reducing childrens' services or enrollment opportunities. Janet also shared that the word she is seeing bubble is "outdoors", possibly leading to a nature-based initiative relating to children, parents and teachers regarding childhood obesity.



Deborah Usry with the Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics said that they have upcoming trainings on substance abuse in several areas, the Ellington Agricultural Center in Nashville on February eighth and ninth, and in Memphis and Johnson City in April. Promoting public awareness of TEIS is an article featured in the winter 2012 issue of The Tennessee Pediatrician.

Kiersten Kinder is the new director for the Susan Gray School at Vanderbilt replacing Ruth Wolery who retired at the end of 2012.

Public Input

None was given.

Topic requests for next meeting

Stewards for Children program presented to ICC members.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

Next ICC Meeting

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

